

multimedia message generated by the mobile terminal into an HTML format transmittable through the Internet or converts a multimedia message received in an HTML format through the Internet to a multimedia message in an XML format expressible in a mobile terminal. The document conversion unit 660 preferably converts a multimedia message in an HTML format to a multimedia message in an XML format in response to a request signal for viewing the message sent by the receiver's mobile terminal.

[0088] As described above, a method and an apparatus for providing a multimedia messaging service according to the present invention enables multimedia files, which are to be added to a multimedia message during preparation of the multimedia message may be received from other instruments connected to a network. Accordingly, the present invention provides free selection of multimedia files to be added to a multimedia message, and easier preparation of a multimedia message.

[0089] Although exemplary embodiments of the present invention have been described in detail hereinabove, it should be understood that many variations and/or modifications of the basic inventive concept herein described, which may appear to those skilled in the art, will still fall within the spirit and scope of the exemplary embodiments of the present invention as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a multimedia messaging service, comprising:

collecting multimedia contents accessible through a network in response to a request for preparing a multimedia message; and
generating the multimedia message including multimedia file access information by selecting a multimedia file from the collected multimedia contents.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein collecting multimedia contents comprises:

requesting the multimedia contents accessible through a first DLNA (Digital Living Network Alliance) network to which a mobile terminal of a sender of the multimedia message is connected; and
receiving the multimedia contents including the multimedia file access information through the first DLNA network.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein generating the multimedia message comprises:

selecting at least one multimedia file to be added to the multimedia message from multimedia files included in the received multimedia contents;
extracting the address of the first DLNA network in which the selected multimedia file is stored; and
generating the multimedia message including the extracted address of the first DLNA network.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

converting the multimedia message to a web page; and
transmitting the web page as an Internet mail.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein, in the step of converting the multimedia message, the multimedia message is converted to the web page by using Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML).

6. The method of claims 4, further comprising:

extracting the multimedia file access information from the web page included in the mail after receiving the mail;

accessing a multimedia file by using the multimedia file access information; and
executing the multimedia file.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein extracting the multimedia file access information comprises:

identifying whether the web page included in the received mail is a multimedia message;

transmitting, if the web page is a multimedia message, a notifying signal of reception of a multimedia message to a receiver's mobile terminal by detecting the telephone number of the receiver's mobile terminal;

transmitting the web page to the receiver's mobile terminal by converting the web page to a mobile terminal display format according to a request signal for viewing the multimedia message; and

extracting multimedia file access information included in the multimedia message according to a request signal for executing the multimedia file.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein, in the step of transmitting the notifying signal of reception of the multimedia message, the notifying signal is transmitted through a second DLNA network to which the receiver's mobile terminal is connected.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein, in the step of transmitting the converted web page, the converted web page is transmitted through a second DLNA network to which the receiver's mobile terminal is connected.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein, in the step of transmitting the converted web page, the web page is converted to an Extensible Markup Language (XML) format.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein, in the step of extracting the multimedia file access information, the multimedia file access information is extracted from the first DLNA network to which the sender's mobile terminal is connected.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein accessing the multimedia file comprises:

transmitting, through the Internet, the request signal for executing the multimedia file including the multimedia file access information to the first DLNA network to which the sender's mobile terminal is connected; and
requesting the multimedia file to an instrument storing multimedia files in the first DLNA network by using the multimedia file access information.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein executing the multimedia file comprises:

receiving the multimedia file from a multimedia file storage unit connected to the first DLNA network;
transmitting, through Internet, the multimedia file to a second DLNA network to which the receiver's mobile terminal is connected;
transmitting the multimedia file to the receiver's mobile terminal through the second DLNA network; and
executing the multimedia file with the receiver's mobile terminal.

14. A mobile terminal comprising:

a DLNA interface unit for requesting multimedia contents accessible through a DNA network according to a request for preparing a multimedia message, and for receiving a corresponding response; and

a control unit for selecting, from the received multimedia contents, at least one multimedia file to be added to the multimedia message according to input selection information, and for generating a multimedia message including the multimedia file access information.